

URBAN DISTRICT OF DENTON



- REPORT -

ON THE

HEALTH OF DENTON

- 1914 -

BY

WM. STEWART, M.D.

HEALTH COMMITTEE.

Chairman :

Mr. WILLIAM OLLERENSHAW.

„ ROBERT HARRISON, *ex-officio*.

Mr. THOMAS MALLALIEU,

„ CHARLES WILLIAM SMITH,

„ WILLIAM THORPE,

„ ALFRED BROWN,

„ GEORGE LOWERSON,

„ ALBERT EDWIN OLLIS,

„ THOMAS RICHARD MILLER,

„ EDWARD WILLIAM SLATER,

„ JOHN BARDSLEY,

„ LEES BROADBENT,

„ RALPH JACKSON WATTS,

„ WILLIAM CHADWICK,

„ JAMES WILLIAM CHEETHAM.

Urban District of Denton.

Public Health Department,
Town Hall, Denton,
March 27th, 1915.

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you my Annual Report on the Health of Denton for the year 1914.

The vital statistics are satisfactory.

The death rate shows a decline on the previous three years, while the birth rate is somewhat higher than in 1913.

The number of cases of infectious disease notified was the highest on record, Scarlet Fever being responsible for over 73 per cent of the total. The death rate was, however, comparatively low.

During the second half of the year under review most of the cases of Scarlet Fever have been isolated at home and treated on the lines suggested by Dr. Robert Milne, e.g. by incision of the skin with Eucalyptus Oil and painting the tonsils with Carbolic Oil (1—10). The results so far promise to be good.

The number of cases of Tuberculosis notified is less than in previous years, as is also the deaths.

A Tuberculosis Dispensary was opened in Ashton-under-Lyne during the year.

The Infant death rate shows a curve in the right direction, but is still above that for England and Wales.

Substitution of water closets and ashbins for privy closets and middens proceeds steadily.

House to house inspection of the district under and for Section 17 of the Act of 1909 proceeds slowly and is far from completed. New endeavours are called for.

The extension of filter accommodation at the Sewage Disposal Works has had to be temporarily suspended owing to mining operations and the consequent risk of subsidence.

From the Engineer's Reports I note that the work for the completion of the Thornley Lane Sewer is now proceeding satisfactorily. Owing to unforeseen underground difficulties this work was practically held up for the past two years.

The pollution of the atmosphere by the emission of dense black smoke from factory chimneys requires more attention.

The matter of Destructor and Steam Disinfector is still in abeyance.

A large number of seizures of animals suffering from Tuberculosis, also other foods, and the carcass of a cow which died from Anthrax, was made by the Sanitary Inspector.

In conclusion I wish to thank the Sanitary Inspector, the Surveyor, and the Manager of the Sewage Works, for their assistance.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

WM. STEWART,
Medical Officer of Health.

ANNUAL REPORT.

STATISTICAL.

The following are General Statistics for year 1914 ;

Area of the district in Acres 2593

Estimated population at the middle of 1914 :—

Males	8272	} 17344
Females	9072	

Number of Persons per Acre 6·68

Number of Persons in each Ward at the Census-taking, 1911:—

West...	6346	} 16880
North	...	...	...	6169
East ...	...	...	...	4365

Number of Inhabited Houses at the Census-taking, 1911 3981

Number of Uninhabited Houses at the Census-taking, 1911 151

Number of Buildings not used as Dwellings at the Census-taking, 1911 259

Number of Persons per House at the Census-taking, 1911 4·956

Number of Houses Completed and Certified Fit for Occupation, 1914 92

Persons Married per 1000 of the Population ... 5·7

Births in the District :

Males...	175	} 366
Females	191	

Annual Birth-rate per 1000 of Population ... 21·1

Deaths :—

Males	107	} 225
Females	118	

" Crude " Death-rates :—						
Males...	...	...	...	6.16	}	12.97
Females	...	...	...	6.80		
" Standardized " Death-rates :						
Males...	...	...	...	6.56	}	13.81
Females	...	...	...	7.25		
Difference between Crude and Standardized						
Death-rates	...	...	...	...	...	+ 0.84
Deaths under 1 year old per 1000 Births						120
Estimated Increase of Population during the year						
1914	...	...	...	...	...	181
Death-rate per 1000 of Population from Epidemic						
Diseases notified or ascertained	...	...	...	...	...	1.32
The mean " Crude " Death-rate, 1904-1913						11.45
The mean Birth-rate, 1904-1913						23.4

Location, Natural and Social Conditions of the District.

The Denton Urban District lies in the South-Eastern corner of Lancashire on the border of Cheshire. It is bounded on the north by Andenshaw Urban District and the Gorton District of Manchester; on the east by the Borough of Hyde; on the south by the Bredbury and Romiley Urban District and the County Borough of Stockport; the Reddish District of the latter borough adjoins it on the west.

The area of the district is 2593 acres.

The surface formation of the district is clay, overlying the coal measures.

Houses in the district are mostly four and six room type, built along four main highways, viz.:—the Hyde, Manchester, Stockport, and Ashton Roads, which intersect at right angles near the middle of the district.

There are $4\frac{1}{2}$ miles of main roads in the district, about $6\frac{5}{8}$ of other roads paved or kept metalled, also $11\frac{5}{8}$ miles of roads not paved or kept metalled.

The following table gives the population and number of inhabited houses at the Census-taking, 1911, and estimated, 1914 :

	Population.	Number of Inhabited Houses.	Average Population per House.
Census, 1911	16880	3981	4.956
Estimated, 1914	17344	4268	4.063

The inhabitants are chiefly employed in the making of Hats (Felt and Silk) and processes incidental to hat making, Engineering, Cotton Spinning, and Coal Mining. (In normal times hatting with its allied industries find employment for at least 75 per cent of the working population of the district.)

Through depression in the hatting industry there has been a good deal of unemployment during the past twelve months. At present a fair number of the male unemployed have found temporary employment in other industries (principally outside the district). A relief fund was organized to assist necessitous cases.

I am unable to state to what extent poor-law relief has been afforded.

Thirteen deaths of residents occurred in the Union Hospital, Ashton-under-Lyne, during the year. There were also thirteen deaths in voluntary-aided hospitals outside the district.

Mercurial Poisoning.

No fresh case of mercurial poisoning has come to my knowledge during the year. This may be due to the majority of the workmen being on short time, consequently being less exposed to the danger of absorption of the metal.

Sanitary Circumstances of the District.

Water Supply.

The district is supplied from the water mains of the Manchester Corporation. The supply is unlimited in amount and of good quality.

Rivers and Streams.

During the year the drainage of the following premises has been disconnected from water courses and connected up to the Council's sewerage system, viz.:—Melbourne Street property, Denton Station, Moorside Farm off Holland Street, and property in Windmill Lane. Other doubtful premises are at present under observation, and will be dealt with as occasion arises.

Drainage and Sewerage.

The district is well drained. During the year two automatic sewer flushing chambers have been fixed, one of 500 gallons capacity in Manchester Road, near the Manchester boundary. And one of 400 gallons capacity in Haughton Green Road. Two other chambers will be installed during the ensuing year in suitable positions.

Two sewer ventilating columns have also been erected during the year.

Method of Disposal of Sewage.

The sewage of the district is treated at the Outfall Works before being passed into the River Tame. The purification process at present in vogue comprises chemical precipitation in tanks, followed by treatment of a portion of the tank effluent in single contact beds and by land filtration. Alterations recently carried out to the precipitation tanks have proved to be very satisfactory, inasmuch as a more satisfactory result is now obtained from this part of the

purification process. Special arrangements have also been made for treating all excess flows due to storm water arriving at the disposal works, in tanks, before being discharged to the river.

Necessary filter extensions for the subsequent treatment of the effluent from the tank process have had to be temporarily suspended owing to mining operations being in progress (with consequent risk of subsidence) directly under the site of the proposed additional filters. Negotiations with the Rivers' Board with regard to this matter are in hand.

Mechanical plant for the preparation of the sewage sludge for disposal has superseded the lagooning process previously in vogue.

Localities Where Improvements are Required.

The construction of the new gravitating sewer in Thornley Lane is still in progress. Many difficulties have been met with, and although the progress for a time was extremely slow, better progress is now being made.

The electrically-driven pumping apparatus situated in Laburnum Road, used in draining this part of the district, has been working satisfactorily, but the emptying of the sump connected therewith, twice each week, has proved a nuisance in the neighbourhood.

Diphtheria has been most prevalent in this part of the district, both in 1913 and 1914.

Recently means has been taken to minimize any risk arising therefrom. The sludge is now mixed with disinfectants before being emptied.

The apparatus will be dispensed with as soon as the Thornley Lane sewer is completed.

The paving of back passages (to prevent the accumulation of stagnant water) is a matter which requires serious consideration. In wet weather many of these passages are little better than quagnires.

Several of the unadopted streets are in a bad state of repair and require attention.

Alteration of Privy Middens and Pail Closets to Water Closets.

The following table will show the yearly progress in this direction since the year 1907 :

Year.	1907	1908	1909	1910	1911	1912	1913	1914
Privy Closets abolished ...	36	183	107	68	265	196	190	139
Fresh Water Closets substituted	42	250	151	77	271	202	193	133
Pail Closets abolished ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	15
Fresh Water Closets substituted	—	—	—	—	—	—	9	13
Waste Water Closets abolished	—	—	—	—	—	—	25	13
Fresh Water Closets substituted	—	—	—	—	—	—	25	13
Privy Middens abolished ...	21	95	72	40	153	109	105	67
Galvanized Dustbins substituted	42	235	156	75	280	195	196	132
Dry Ashpits abolished...	—	—	—	—	—	30	14	11
Galvanized Dustbins substituted	—	—	—	—	—	55	16	18

The above figures show that there has been instituted 159 fresh water closets, in lieu of 167 privy, pail, and waste water closets; whilst 78 privy middens and ashpits have been replaced by 150 dustbins.

Circumstances due to the war account for the decrease in the number of conversions as compared with recent years. Efforts, however, will not be lacking during the year 1915 to improve on the figures shown in the above table.

I am pleased to be able to state that the Inspector of Nuisances has had the unanimous support of the Health Committee in his efforts to rid the district of the privy closet.

privy midden, and pail closet. On an average rate of the past four years the district should be quite clear of these nuisances within the next two years.

The following table will show the relative number in each Ward, and the total for the district at the end of the year :—

Ward.	Fresh Water Closets.	Waste Water Closets.	Latrine Closets.	Pail Closets.	Privy Closets.	Dustbins.	Dry Ashpits.	Privy Middens.	Cesspools.	Public and Private Urinals.
North.	1390	350	65	1	95	1191	137	50	—	58
East...	765	163	26	13	182	714	88	111	1	31
West...	1778	165	56	10	95	1508	127	50	2	42
Total..	3933	678	147	24	372	3413	352	211	3	131

Scavenging.

The privy middens are emptied periodically, ashbins are emptied weekly, pail closets are systematically emptied at regular intervals, once or twice weekly, as necessity demands.

The whole is removed in specially constructed carts, and deposited on low-lying ground at the following tips, viz.:—Windmill Lane and Vaudrey Lane. The deposits are well soiled over.

House Refuse.

This is removed by the public scavenger weekly, and carted to the night-soil tips enumerated before, and dealt with in a similar manner.

This system of disposal of the refuse of the district is bad, and a serious menace to the health of those to follow us.

In my opinion, if these tips are not actually built over in a few years to come, they will in all probability be in dangerous proximity to dwelling-houses.

In my reports for 1912 and 1913, I urged the necessity of a destructor to thoroughly dispose of all organic matter. The question has had the attention of the Council, but without result.

The following statement prepared by the Inspector of Nuisances shows the amount of night-soil and ashes removed during the year :—

Dustbins emptied	...	...	111,358	—	1,978	loads
Dry Ashpits emptied	...	...	2,301	}	1,999	..
Privy Middens emptied	...	...	1,043			
Pails 1,010, Cesspools 174	...	...	1,184	—	155	..
Trades Refuse	...	...	82	—	82	..
Total			...	...	4,214	
						<hr/>
Removed to Windmill Tip	...	...	...	...	2,325	loads
Removed to Vaudrey Tip...	...	...	...	...	1,782	..
Removed to Farmers' Tip	...	...	...	...	107	..
Total			...	...	4,214	
						<hr/>

Sanitary Inspection of District.

Three hundred and thirty-nine dwelling houses and other premises have been dealt with.

One hundred and sixty-two Preliminary Notices and twenty-nine Statutory Notices, requiring the abatement of nuisances, have been served.

The following tabulated statement will show the principal nuisances discovered, and the result of action taken :—

	By Verbal request.	By Preliminary Notice.	By Statutory Notice.	Totals.
1. Privy closets abolished ...	20	108	11	139
2. Fresh water closetssubstituted	21	100	12	133
3. Pail closets abolished ...	2	13	..	15
4. Fresh water closetssubstituted	2	11	...	13
5. Waste water closets abolished	6	7	...	13
6. Fresh water closetssubstituted	6	7	..	13
7. Privy middens abolished ...	10	52	5	67
8. Dustbins substituted ...	20	102	10	132
9. Dry ashpits abolished ...	3	8	...	11
10. Dustbins substituted ...	6	12	...	18
11. Dustbins renewed ...	...	17	...	17
12. Defective w.c's. repaired ...	...	21	...	21
13. Blocked gullies, w.c's., and drains cleared or repaired ...	1	63	...	64
14. Slop-pipes lengthened or re- paired	12	59	10	81
15. Drains relaid... ..	22	49	10	81
16. New self-cleansing gullies provided	14	35	10	59
17. Ventilating shafts fixed ...	...	12	1	13
18. Inspection chambers provided	2	5	...	7
19. Intercepting traps provided..	1	3	...	4
20. Drop-spouts disconnected from drains and repaired ...	6	10	3	19
21. Yard walls rebuilt or repaired	21	58	10	89
22. Yard surfaces repaired and re-formed	24	82	10	116
23. Wood sheds removed from yards	3	21	14	38
24. Accumulations of manure,&c. removed ... ..	...	1	...	1
25. Nuisances abated from ani- mals being improperly kept.	...	6	...	6
26. Defective roofs, eaves, etc. repaired ... ..	...	2	...	2
27. Defective windows & general repairs in houses	1	14	...	15
28. Urinals built and repaired ...	...	1	..	1
Total number of Nuisances abated under the above headings ...	203	879	106	1188

Smoke Nuisances.

During the year no smoke observations were taken. This is accounted for by the fact that during the earlier part of the year a great depression of trade ensued, some of the hat works being closed down and others on short time.

In the latter part of the year the hatting trade again became unsettled on account of the war, the export trades of some of the firms being suspended.

Nuisances arising from smoke, however, have not entirely escaped the attention of the Sanitary Inspector, for whenever an excess of smoke has been seen emitting from works' chimneys the owners have been cautioned.

Offensive Trades.

Under this heading there are two tripe boilers. Their places of business are clean and well kept.

Schools.

There are in the district two Provided Schools, viz.:—The Russell Scott Council School and the Central Council School.

Five non-provided schools, viz.:—Christ Church C.E. School, Denton and Haughton National School, St. Mary's Roman Catholic School, St. Mary's C.E. School, and St. Anne's C.E. School.

The sanitary condition of all schools in the district is, on the whole, satisfactory.

All receive their water supply from the Manchester Corporation mains.

Cases of Infectious Diseases were dealt with by exclusion.

No school or department of a school was closed during the year.

On receipt of notification of an Infectious Disease, the Head Teacher is invited to exclude from school all children coming from the infected house until he has had notice that the house in question is free from infection.

Leaflets giving the most prominent symptoms and signs of the Infectious Diseases have been supplied to all schools, and teachers have been asked to exclude from school any child showing symptoms or suggestive of Infectious Disease.

Printed post cards for this purpose have been provided by the Council.

Non-Notifiable Zymotics have been dealt with according to the rules laid down in the Memorandum on Closure and Exclusion from School, 1909.

Medical Inspection of Schools

is carried on under the requirements of the Education (Administrative Provisions) Act, 1907, and of the Code of Regulations for Public Elementary Schools (Articles 58 (a) and (b)).

The Medical Inspector, along with the School Nurse, visit in turn each school in the district, and make a systematic inspection of all children.

A perusal of the Annual Report of the Medical Superintendent of Schools for the County (Dr. Butterworth) shows that much useful work is being done by the medical staff and school nurses under his superintendence.

In the Report the work is classified for the whole County.

To myself it would be more interesting if the work in each sanitary area could be classified separately.

A weekly return of sickness in schools is made by the School Attendance Officer, a copy of which I receive each Saturday.

The following figures will show the approximate average weekly return of new cases of sickness during the 12 months under the separate headings :—

Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.	Enteric Fever.	Measles.	Whooping Cough.	Chicken Pox.	Mumps.	Ring Worm.	Ophthalmia.	Sore Throat.	Bronchitis and Pneumonia.	Colds.	Sore Heads.	Other Diseases.	Total.
4	1	2	1	1	1	1	17	3	27	3	18	78

The following figures show the Notifiable Zymotic attacks in school children at the different schools in the district :—

	Quarter Ending 31st March.	Quarter Ending 30th June.	Quarter Ending 30th September.	Quarter Ending 31st December.
Russell Scott Council School.	13 Scarlet Fever 1 Diphtheria	10 Scarlet Fever	10 Scarlet Fever	3 Scarlet Fever
Central Council School	4 Scarlet Fever	9 Scarlet Fever 1 Diphtheria	6 Scarlet Fever 1 Continued Fev.	2 Scarlet Fever
Christ Church C.E. School	2 Scarlet Fever	5 Scarlet Fever		5 Scarlet Fever
Denton and Haughton National School	10 Scarlet Fever 2 Diphtheria	4 Scarlet Fever	6 Scarlet Fever	10 Scarlet Fever
St. Mary's R.C. School	1 Scarlet Fever			
St. Mary's C.E. School	3 Scarlet Fever	1 Scarlet Fever		2 Scarlet Fever
St. Anne's C.E. School	8 Scarlet Fever 2 Diphtheria	1 Scarlet Fever 1 Diphtheria		2 Scarlet Fever

Nine Scarlet Fever cases, one Continued Fever, and three Diphtheria cases attended schools outside the district.

Six Scarlet Fever cases were scholars at private schools in the district.

In every case where an undetected case of Infections Disease was found attending school, the class room, or, where considered advisable, the whole school was disinfected.

Foods.

MILK SUPPLY.

The number of persons registered as Cowkeepers or Purveyors of Milk are shown as under:—

WARD.	Cowkeepers and Purveyors of Milk.	Cowkeepers only.	Purveyors of Milk.	Total.
North	4	1	11	16
East	11	3	6	20
West.....	8	1	14	23
Farmers from outside districts			5	5
Total.....	23	5	36	64

Regulations under the Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops Order are in force in the district.

Very frequent inspections of farm premises are made by the Sanitary Inspector, and his knowledge of live animals has been useful to him in his inspections. At two of the farms in the district he detected two cows (which were giving milk) to be suffering from Tuberculosis. These were at once isolated, and the Council's Veterinary Surgeon

certified the animals to be suffering from Tuberculosis, with emaciation. The first case was reported to the police, to be dealt with under the Tuberculosis Order, 1913, but as the farmer (the owner) in this case, which was prior to the suspension of the Tuberculosis Order, 1913, was willing to have the animal slaughtered and destroyed, no action was taken by the police.

In the second case, which was after the suspension of the Tuberculosis Order, 1913, the farmer agreed to have the animal slaughtered and destroyed.

The animals in both cases were slaughtered under the supervision of the Sanitary Inspector, and on post mortem the carcasses showed extensive Miliary Tuberculosis of both Lungs, Tumifaction of the Lymphatic Glands, and the carcasses emaciated. In both these cases the carcasses and organs were destroyed.

Considerable alterations and improvements have been carried out at three of the farm premises in the district. At the "Laurel Villa" Farm, Haughton, the old-fashioned cowsheds have been demolished, and an up-to-date farm premises built.

At Thornley Lane Farm, whereat a fire took place and burnt out the cowsheds and barn, the premises have been rebuilt and brought up to modern requirements.

At Henfold Farm, Town Lane, improvements have been carried out in the way of lighting, ventilating, paving, and re-draining of the whole farm premises, and connected to Council's sewer. This last-mentioned farm is where a case of Anthrax broke out, particulars of which will be found under the heading of Meat Inspection.

Much, however, remains to be done to bring the farm premises of the district up to the proper standard.

Too little attention is paid by Cowkeepers in the way of Ventilation of their Cowsheds, and although warned in this respect, they will persist in blocking up the ventilators and stuffing up the crevices of doors with old hay, &c. The farmers (with few exceptions) think that by this method they induce a better milk supply, which may be so in quantity, but certainly not in quality, and is not conducive to the health of the animals.

Improvements will, I am given to to understand, be carried out at other farm premises in the district during "the next turning-out time," i.e., from May to October, 1915.

OTHER FOODS.

The food supply generally has been of a wholesome character. No case of illness has been attributed to partaking of contaminated food.

The sanitary conditions of places where foods are prepared, stored, or exposed for sale are, on the whole, satisfactory.

There are 72 bakehouses within the district, and, with the exception of two, the baking is carried on in conjunction with some other business. The conditions found were satisfactory.

Meat Inspection and Other Foods.

A systematic inspection of meat and other foods is carried out by the Sanitary Inspector, who holds the Meat and other Foods' Inspector's Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute.

The following is a report by (Mr. Brocklehurst) the Sanitary Inspector :—

1. On Friday, February 6 14, I discovered a case of Anthrax, which had broken out at the Henfold Farm, Town

Lane, Denton. Briefly : It was reported to me that the cow had been found in a state of strangulation, and was afterwards bled and dressed.

Upon visiting the farm and making the necessary enquiries, and afterwards examining the carcase, I suspected the animal to have died from Anthrax.

A blood specimen was taken from the spleen and microscopically examined and found to contain numerous Anthrax Bacilli.

The Local Authority was notified, and the County Veterinary Surgeon further examined the carcase and pronounced the case to be one of Anthrax, after which all the necessary precautions were taken, the whole carcase and organs being destroyed by fire and the premises thoroughly disinfected.

A serious feature arising out of the case was that the butcher who had dressed the carcase contracted the disease through superficial scratches on his hands, and had to be removed to the Manchester Royal Infirmary for special treatment, which treatment resulted in complete recovery.

No further cases of Anthrax were reported during the year.

2. On Saturday, the 19th December, 1914, I stopped two men who were driving a cow along Two Trees Lane, Denton, the cow being very weak and emaciated.

Upon making enquiries from the men, I ascertained that the animal had been driven several miles from an outside district.

The men, who are noted screw butchers, and dealers in poor cattle, were requested to drive the animal to the Town's Yard for veterinary examination, but they refused.

I found (on attempting to have it removed by my assistants) that the animal was suffering from lameness, and so had to be removed to the Town's Yard in a cattle float, where it was examined by a veterinary surgeon, who would not certify that the animal was suffering from Tuberculosis, with emaciation and diseased udder.

I reported the matter to the police, who communicated with Mr. Prince, N.S.P.C.A. Inspector, who took action against the men, who were heavily fined for cruelty to animals.

Only having suspicion to work upon that the animal was intended for slaughter for human food, I ascertained that the men gave 55/- for it, and they stated that the animal was being taken to a knacker's yard at Mottram, which is about ten miles from Dan Bank Farm, Marple, where the animal came from.

As the animal was left in the Council's stables, upon my own initiative I had the animal shot and removed to a knacker's yard and dressed.

The carcase being very much bruised and emaciated, and the lungs and the udder were affected with Miliary Tuberculosis. The whole carcase and organs were, therefore, destroyed.

No prosecution ensued in this case, on account of there not being a magistrate's order obtained for condemnation of the animal or of its carcase for human food.

3. During the month of September I seized the following goods from three hawkers' carts:—

Eight stones of Plums, one basket of Bananas, 10lbs. Potatoes, 5lbs. Tomatoes, 5lbs. Pears, 32 Herrings.

Prosecution was instituted against Gamaliel Holland, 45, Ridling Lane, Hyde, for exposing for sale unsound fruit, fish, &c., for human food, in Denton. Fined 5/6 and costs in each of three cases.

On December 21st, 1914 :—

I seized two sets of Pigs' Lungs and Spleens and a portion of the carcase of a pig from a slaughter house.

These were, however, dealt with as surrenders.

Slaughterhouses.

There are eleven slaughterhouses in the District, five of which are registered and six licensed. Frequent inspections are made.

The situation of some of the slaughterhouses are not desirable, being too near dwelling-houses. As against this, however, they are kept scrupulously clean, and are lime-washed at regular intervals.

Sale of Food and Drugs Acts.

During the year no samples of milk were taken by the Sanitary Inspector.

By resolution of the Health Committee 20th July, 1914, and confirmed by the Council, it was resolved—That the Clerk be instructed to write to the County Council and ask that samples of milk be again taken in the District for the purpose of analysis.

From a copy letter received from the Public Health Department, County Offices, Preston, paragraph three states that during the twelve months ending 19th June, thirty-eight samples of milk have been purchased in Denton. “No prosecution.”

These samples, for analysis, were taken by the police of the Ashton-under-Lyne Division.

Facilities ought, however, be given to the Sanitary Inspector to obtain samples of milk and to submit same for analysis to the County Analyst, and on the report of the analyst, where any samples are found to be below the standard, other samples could then be taken direct from the source of supply, to which the report of the analyst has reference.

Housing, Town Planning, etc., Act, 1909.

Dwelling-houses inspected under and for the purposes of Section 17 of the Act of 1909 :—

No. of Inspections.	No. of dwelling-houses, which, on inspection, were considered to be in a state unfit for human habitation.	No. of representations made to Local Authority with a view to making Closing Orders.	No. of Closing Orders made.	No. of dwelling-houses, the defects of which were remedied without the making of a Closing Order.	The number of dwelling-houses which, after the making of Closing Orders, were put in a fit state for human habitation.
35	17	...

During the year 35 inspections of dwelling-houses were made, and in one house no defects were found : 29 preliminary notices specifying work required to be done to remedy defects, comprising principally, dirty walls and ceilings, defective roofs, windows fast and unable to open, floors and woodwork in a bad state of repair, &c.

In 17 houses thorough renovation has been carried out.

No closing or demolition orders were made during the year.

Housing.

In my Report of 1913, I reported a shortage of cottage property in the North and East Wards. During the present year, owing to a depression in the hatting trade, particularly so the second half of the year, also circumstances due to the

war, many young married couples have been obliged to give up housekeeping and live with their parents or friends. The result is that several houses are now empty. Furthermore, the number of new houses completed and certified fit for occupation is more than any of the previous four years. The housing accommodation is, therefore, adequate for present requirements.

Houses in the District are, for the most part, in a good sanitary condition, with a sufficiency of air space and cleanliness of the surroundings.

The following table gives the number of dwelling-houses completed and certified fit for occupation during the years :—

1904	1905	1906	1907	1908	1909	1910	1911	1912	1913	1914
101	90	87	82	50	114	70	75	63	57	92

Twenty other houses were in course of erection at the end of the year.

In the following tabulated statement will be seen the housing accommodation, with annual value under and over £16, the Ward distribution; also other buildings in the District :—

Ward.	Houses.		Total Houses.	Clubs.	Factories.	Workshops	Churches and Chapels.	Schools.
	Under £16	Over £16						
North	1178	383	1561	2	29	31	3	4
East... ..	894	201	1095	1	13	11	3	4
West	1008	747	1755	5	20	22	5	4
Total ..	3080	1331	4411	8	62	64	11	12

Artisan houses are mostly four-room type. A number have five and six rooms; many are provided with baths.

Supervision over the Erection of New Buildings.

Plans are deposited and approved by the Council, subject to the buildings conforming to the bye-laws of the Council. Buildings are regularly inspected during the course of erection, and finally inspected after completion, and if found in accordance with the bye-laws of the district, they are then certified as fit for human habitation.

Factories, Workshops, Workplaces and Homework.

1. INSPECTION OF FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors or Inspectors of Nuisances.

PREMISES.	NUMBER OF		
	Inspections.	Written Notices.	Prosecutions.
FACTORIES (Including Factory Laundries)	74	4	...
WORKSHOPS... .. (Including Workshop Laundries)	108	...	...
WORKPLACES (Other than than Outworkers' premises included in Part 3 of this Report)...	24	...	...
Total	206	4	...

2. DEFECTS FOUND IN FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

PARTICULARS.	No. of Defects.			Number of Prosecutions.
	Found.	Remedied.	Referred to H.M. Inspector.	
<i>Nuisances under the Public Health Acts :</i>				
Want of Cleanliness .. ...				..
Want of Ventilation ... ..				..
Overcrowding ... ..				..
Want of Drainage of Floors ... ..				..
Other Nuisances ... ..				..
Sanitary Accommodation :				
{ Insufficient	1	1	1	..
{ Unsuitable or Defective	3	3	..	..
{ Not Separate for Sexes ... ..	..	..	..	..
<i>Offences under the Factory and Workshop Acts :</i>				
Illegal occupation of underground bakehouses (s. 101) ... ..				..
Breach of Special Sanitary require- ments for Bakehouses (ss. 97 to 100) ... ..				..
Other Offences ... ..				..
(Excluding offences relating to out- work which are included in Part 3 of this Report)				
Total	4	4	1	..

3. HOME WORK.

Nature of Work.	OUTWORKERS LISTS, Section 107.				Notices served on Occupiers as to keeping or sending Lists.	Prosecutns.	Outwork in Unwholesome Premises, Section 108.	Outwork in Infected Premises, Secs. 109, 110 (Sections 109, 110).
	Lists received from Employers sending twice in the year.	Outworkers Lists.	Contractors, Workmen.	Lists. Contractors, Workmen.				
Wearing Apparel— Making, &c.	36	858	3	4	51	Failing to keep or permit inspection of Lists. Failing to send Lists.	Instances. Notices served. Prosecutions.	Instances Orders made (S. 110). Prosecutions (Sections 109, 110).

4. REGISTERED WORKSHOPS.

Workshops on the Register (s. 131) at the end of the year :	Number
Workshops	54
Bakehouses... ..	72
Total Number of Workshops on Register ...	126

5. OTHER MATTERS.

Class.	Number
Matters Notified to H M. Inspector of Factories :	
Failure to affix Abstract of the Factory and Workshop Acts (s. 133, 1901)	
Action taken in matters referred by H.M. Inspector as remediable under the Public Health Acts, but not under the Factory and Workshop Acts (s. 5, 1901)	
Notified by H.M. Inspector	1
Reports (of action taken) sent to H.M. Inspector	1
Suitable means of escape in case of fire have been provided at the works of Messrs. J. Beavan & Co., Ltd., Hat Manufacturers, Denton... ..	1
Underground Bakehouses (s. 101) in use at the end of the year	1

There are 62 textile and non-textile factories and 126 workshops within the District.

The principal industries carried on in the factories are : Felt hat manufacturing, box-making, packing-case making, wire-drawing, hat leather manufacturing, printing, dyeing, cotton spinning, electricity, gas and oil engines, and engineering, ironfounders, brick-making, and laundries.

And in the workshops : Silk hat manufacturing, box-making, printing, paper-cutting, dyeing, cabinetmaking, joinery, and the trades or businesses of : Blacksmiths, wheelwrights, tin and coppersmiths, plumbers, milliners, dress-makers, bakers, tripe-dressers, and launders.

The conditions of the workshops are very satisfactory.

At the factories occupied by :

1. S. Taylor & Co, Cotton Spinners, Denton,
2. Turner, Atherton & Co, Engineers, Denton,
3. J. Thompson & Son, Builders, Denton,

alterations to sanitary conveniences have been carried out as follows :—

1. Eight pail closets abolished : six fresh water closets substituted.
2. Five pail closets abolished : five latrine closets substituted.
3. One hand-flushed closet abolished : one fresh water closet substituted.

The work required to be done at J. Bevan & Co., Hat Manufacturers, Denton, notified by H.M. Inspector of Factories to the Council in 1914, has now been completed. The firm having provided an additional sanitary convenience for the use of the females employed thereat, and also provided a suitable means of escape in case of fire, in accordance with the requirements of the Senior Lady Inspector of Factories.

Home Workers.

During the year 39 lists were received from employers within the District, sending twice in the year, representing 862 workers (this figure is approximately double the number of individual outworkers).

Three lists were received from other authorities representing five employers and six outworkers.

Eighty-one inspections were made to outworkers' premises during the year.

C. Sanitary Administration of the District.

Summary of Work Done in the Department of the Inspector of Nuisances.

No. of Notices served162 Preliminary and 29 Statutory.

No. of Nuisances remedied ... 1188, at 1339 houses and other premises.

Closest Accommodation.

No. of Conversions during 1914...139 privy, 15 pail, and 13 waste water closets were replaced by 159 fresh water closets, whilst 67 privy middens and 11 dry ashpits were abolished and 150 dustbins substituted.

Amount of nightsoil and ashes removed during the
year 4214 loads

No. of houses completed and certified fit for human
habitation 92

Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops Orders, 1885-1886.

No. of Cowkeepers and Purveyors of Milk 67

Housing, Town Planning, &c., Act.

No. of houses inspected 35

No. of houses, the defects of which were remedied ... 17

No. of houses unfit for human habitation —

Factories, Workshops, Workplaces and Homework.

No. of inspections made 206

No. of notices served 4

No. of nuisances remedied 4

No. of lists received 42

No. of inspections made to homeworkers' premises ... 81

Infectious Diseases.

No. of houses at which infectious disease occurred	..	192
No. of rooms fumigated and disinfected	... ..	384

Hospital Accommodation.

The Council pay a retaining fee for six beds in the Hyde Borough Infectious Diseases Hospital. Two beds for smallpox and four beds for other cases than smallpox.

Thirty-nine cases were removed to hospital, viz. :

Scarlet Fever	...	...	..	38
Diphtheria	...	...	...	1

The arrangement of the hospital is such that four different infectious diseases can be isolated and treated concurrently. There is also an isolation ward for doubtful cases.

Adoptive Acts in force in the District.

Title of Act.	Date Act came in force in the District
The Public Libraries Act and Acts amending the same	21st May, 1887.
The Infectious Disease (Notification) Act, 1889	26th March, 1892.
The Infectious Disease (Prevention) Act, 1890	1st May, 1894.
The Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act, 1890	1st July, 1894.
The Private Street Works Act, 1892	1st May, 1896.
The Museums & Gymnasiums Act, 1891	1st October, 1897.
The Small Dwellings Acquisition Act, 1889	6th May, 1901.

Chemical and Bacteriological Work during the Year.

All Bacteriological Work is entrusted to the Public Health Laboratory, Victoria University, Manchester.

The following tabulated statement will show the number and nature of specimens submitted, and the result of the examination :—

*MONTH.	Diphtheria.		Typhoid Fever.		Human Tuberculosis.		Bovine Tuberculosis.		Various Investigations.		No. of Samples. **
	Total.	+	Total.	+	Sputum. Total.	+	Milk. Total.	×	Nature.		
January . .	3	1	...	...	6	2				
February . .	...	...	...	...	1	0				
March . .	...	...	...	...	1	0				
April . .	...	...	...	...	5	1				
May . .	1	0	...	...	6	0				
June . .	...	...	...	...	1	0				
July . .	...	...	...	...	3	2				
August . .	...	...	...	...	1	1				
September . .	...	...	...	...	1	1				
October . .	...	...	...	...	...	...
November . .	...	...	...	...	1	0				
December . .	1	1	...	...	...	...	
Total . .	5	2	...	...	26	7				

* The month is counted to the last Saturday in each month.

** The numbers given in this column refer to the number of initial specimens or samples which formed the basis of "various investigations" in the course of which a greater number of specimens may have had to be examined for the purpose of study.

Prevalence of and Control over Acute Infectious Diseases.

Isolation.

Out of a total of 262 cases of infectious diseases notified during the year 38 cases were removed to Hyde Borough Infectious Disease Hospital, and one case was removed to an isolation hospital in Manchester. During the second half of the year the majority of Scarlet Fever cases were isolated at home and treated by incision of the skin with Eucalyptus Oil and painting the tonsils with Carbolic Oil (1-10). Twelve cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis had treatment at Sanatoria, and one case of non-pulmonary tuberculosis had hospital treatment at Manchester Royal Infirmary.

Disinfection.

Rooms are disinfected either by formaldehyde vapour, or the fumes from burning sulphur.

No provision has yet been made for stoving bedding, &c.

A more thorough disinfection of the latter could be made by a Steam Disinfector.

During the year six public schools were disinfected in consequence of the prevalence of Scarlet Fever (at one school on three separate occasions, and at another on two occasions : Total, nine disinfections).

Bacteriology.

Thirty-one specimens in suspected cases of Diphtheria and Pulmonary Tuberculosis were sent to Professor Delèpine, of the Public Health Laboratory, Victoria University, for examination, and the following is the result of the work done :

Diphtheria. Five examinations made, three positive and two negative.

Pulmonary Tuberculosis. Twenty-six examinations made, seven positive and nineteen negative.

Library books found in infected houses are either destroyed or thoroughly disinfected by separating the leaves and submitting them to the fumes of burning sulphur or formaldehyde vapour.

Non-notifiable infectious diseases I have dealt with according to the rules laid down in the "Memorandum on Closure and Exclusion from Schools, 1909."

Prevalence and Control over Tuberculosis.

This matter I have dealt with in a subsequent part of my Report, under the heading "Tuberculosis."

Vital Statistics.

Birth Rate.

There were 366 births registered (13 illegitimate). The females born (191) exceed the males (175) by 16.

The birth rate was 21·1 per 1,000 per annum of the estimated population (males 10·08, females 11·01).

The following table gives the number of births registered, with the birth rate for the years 1904-1913, with averages for the years stated :

Year.	No. of Births.	Birth-rate.
1904	388	25·0
1905	336	21·5
1906	399	25·4
1907	352	22·2
1908	392	24·5
1909	391	24·2
1910	439	26·9
1911	385	22·7
1912	364	21·3
1913	359	20·8
Average for years 1904-1913	<hr/> 380	<hr/> 23·4

The birth-rate, although slightly higher than in 1913, is 2·3 below the average for the past ten years.

The birth-rate for England and Wales for 1914 was 23·6 (figures provisional).

Death Rate.

The total number of deaths registered was 225. The deaths of females (118) exceed those of males (107) by 11.

The “crude” death rate from all causes was 12·97 per 1,000 per annum of the estimated population (males 6·16, females 6·80).

The following table gives the number of deaths belonging to the district, with the “crude” death-rates for the years 1904-1913, with averages for the years stated :

Year.	No. of Deaths.	Death-rate.
1904	246	15·2
1905	230	14·7
1906	259	16·5
1907	245	13·5
1908	215	13·4
1909	244	15·1
1910	195	11·9
1911	256	15·1
1912	248	14·5
1913	252	14·65
Average for years	—	—
1904-1913	239	14·45

The “crude” death-rate for 1914 is 1·48 below the average for the past 10 years.

The “crude” death-rate for England and Wales for 1914 was 13·9.

Transferable Deaths.

Two deaths of non-residents, registered in the district, have been transferred away, and 36 deaths of residents not registered in the district have been transferred to the district.

Standardized Death-Rate.

By means of a "standardizing factor" the Registrar-General has been able to place on a more equal footing, districts with a population unfavourably constituted as regards sex and age with those districts more favourably constituted.

The following gives the factor, and illustrates the difference between the "crude" and the "standardized" death-rate :—

Factor.	Standardized Death Rate.	Crude Death Rate.	Difference.
1.0659.	Males. ... 6.56 } Females. 7.25 }	13.81	Males ... 6.16 } Females.. 6.80 }
			12.97 + 0.84

The ages at the time of deaths were as follows :—

All ages	Under 1 year	1 and under 2 yrs.	2 and under 5 yrs.	5 and under 15 yrs.	15 and under 25 yrs.	25 and under 45 yrs.	45 and under 65 yrs.	65 and up- wards.
225	44	8	10	11	8	29	53	62

The chief causes of death during 1914 were as follows :

Enteric Fever 1, Measles 2, Scarlet Fever 7, Whooping Cough 3, Diphtheria and Croup 1, Phthisis 17, Tubercular Meningitis 3, other Tubercular Diseases 2, Cancer 15, Rheumatic Fever 2, Meningitis 4, Organic Heart Disease 25, Bronchitis 11, Pneumonia 20, other diseases of Respiratory Organs 3, Diarrhœa and Enteritis 8, Appendicitis 1, Nephritis and Bright's Disease 5, other Accidents and Diseases of Pregnancy and Parturition 1, Congenital Debility and Malformation, including Premature Birth 13, violent deaths 9, suicide 1, other defined diseases 71.

From the above it will be seen that lung diseases account for 48 deaths, Organic Heart Disease 25, Cancer 15, Congenital Debility, &c., 13, Diarrhœa and Enteritis 8, Scarlet Fever 7.

Infant Mortality.

There were 44 deaths of Infants under one year of age registered during the year.

Measured by the proportion of deaths to the registered births was equal to 120 per 1,000.

The following table gives the number of Infant Deaths and Infant Death-rate for the years 1904-1913, with the averages for the years stated :—

Year.	No. of Infant Deaths.	Infant Death Rate.
1904	74	190
1905	63	187
1806	54	135
1907	34	96
1908	41	104
1909	51	130
1910	43	97
1911	57	148
1912	54	148
1913	52	144
Average for years 1904-1913	— 52	— 137

Of the deaths under one year, 13 were due to Congenital Malformation, Premature Birth, Atrophy, Debility, and Marasmus; due to Diarrhœa and Enteritis 8, Bronchitis and Pneumonia 6, Convulsions 4, Whooping Cough 3, Measles 1, Gastritis 4, Syphilis 1, Suffocation 1, Atelactasis 1, and other causes 1.

Of the total deaths under one year, four were illegitimate children.

The following table gives the deaths from stated causes in weeks and months under one year :—

CAUSE OF DEATH.		Under 1 Week.	1-2 Weeks.	2-3 Weeks	3-4 Weeks.	Total under 4 Weeks.	4 Weeks and under 3 Months	3 Months and under 6 Months.	6 Months and under 9 Months	9 Months and under 12 M th .	Total Deaths under One Year.
1		2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
All causes	Certified	6	4	1	3	14	12	5	7	6	44
	Uncertified	...	...		..	...		...	...	...	...
{	Small-pox	...	..	...	..	...	..	...	...	...	...
{	Chicken-pox	...	...		...	...	..	...	...	...	...
{	Measles	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	1	...	1
{	Scarlet Fever	...	..	..	..	...	...	...	...	...	...
{	Whooping Cough	...	...	...	..	..	2	...	...	1	3
{	Diphtheria and Croup	..	...	...		...	...	...	...	...	...
	Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	...
{	Tuberculous Meningitis	...	...		...	...	...	..	...	...	...
{	Abdominal Tuberculosis (<i>b</i>)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
{	Other Tuberculous Diseases	...	...	...	...	...		...	...	...	...
	Meningitis (<i>not Tuberculous</i>)	...		...	..	...		...	...	...	...
	Convulsions	...	1	2	...	3		...	1	...	4
	Laryngitis	...	...	...		...	...	...	...	...	...
	Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	..	1	...	...	...	1
	Pneumonia (all forms)	...		...	...	...	..	...	3	2	5
{	Diarrhœa	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1
{	Enteritis	...	...	...	1	1	2	1	1	2	7
	Gastritis	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	...	1	4
	Syphilis	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1
	Rickets	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Suffocation, overlying	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	2
	Injury at Birth	...	...	..		...	...	...	...	...	...
	Atelectasis	...	1	...	...	1	...	..	...	...	1
{	Congenital Malformations <i>c</i>	1		...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1
{	Premature Birth	...	2	2	1	5	1	...	...	...	6
{	Atrophy, Debility, and										
	Marasmus	1	1	2	1	2	1	...	6
	Other causes	...	1	1	1
Total		6	1	1	3	14	12	5	7	6	44

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The Infant death-rate, although lower than the average for the past ten years, still remains too high, and is above that for England and Wales, which was 105 per 1,000 births.

In my Report for 1913, I gave my reasons for this high infant and child mortality.

The adoption of the Notification of Births Act and the appointment of a Lady Health Visitor had the consideration of the Health Committee on the 29th June, 1914, and was adjourned for further consideration sine die.

Infectious Diseases.

The diseases included in the Infectious Diseases (Notification) Act, 1889, are as follows :—

Smallpox, Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria, Membranous Croup, Typhus Fever, Enteric or Typhoid Fever, Relapsing Fever, Continued Fever, Puerperal Fever, Erysipelas and Asiatic Cholera.

The following cases were notified in 1914 and the ten previous years and the year 1914 is compared with the average of the previous ten years :—

Disease.	1904	1905	1906	1907	1908	1909	1910	1911	1912	1913	Ave. for 10 yrs.	1914
Smallpox	5	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	0.5	.....
Scarlet Fever.	101	114	134	199	87	92	24	47	37	57	89	192
Diphtheria & Membranous Croup ...	5	1	5	14	11	7	6	8	17	26	10	19
Typhus Fever.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Enteric Fever.	17	9	11	4	11	17	6	8	5	6	9	1
Puerper. Fever	.....	4	.....	1	.....	.....	1	2	1	.....	0.9	.....
Erysipelas ...	25	29	19	16	5	12	7	11	7	10	14	8
Contind. Fever	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2
Totals...	153	157	169	234	114	128	44	76	67	99	123.4	222

The number of cases notified was 222, which is more than the average for the preceding ten years. Scarlet Fever being responsible for the large increase in notifications during the year.

The death-rate per 1,000 of the estimated population from the principal zymotics: Smallpox, Measles, Scarlet Fever, Whooping Cough, Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup); Fevers: (Typhus, Typhoid, and other continued), Epidemic Influenza, Cholera, Plague, Diarrhœa, Puerperal Fever, and Erysipelas is shown in the following table, compared with the average of the previous ten years:—

										Avg. 10 yrs.	
1904	1905	1906	1907	1908	1909	1910	1911	1912	1913		1914
1.6	1.34	1.14	1.58	1.12	1.92	0.67	1.53	0.58	0.87	1.24	1.32

Smallpox.

No cases of Smallpox have been reported in the district since 1904.

Scarlet Fever.

The following figures show the number of cases notified during the years:—

1903	1904	1905	1906	1907	1908	1909	1910	1911	1912	1913	1914
74	101	114	134	199	87	92	24	47	37	57	192

The disease was epidemic throughout the year.

The following table shows the number notified during each month throughout the year:—

Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
24	11	29	30	15	7	12	11	15	20	9	9

The number is 135 more than that for the preceding year, and is 105 above the average for the preceding eleven years.

There were seven deaths, giving a mortality rate of 3.6 per cent. of the cases.

During the early part of January two overlooked cases were discovered attending one of the public schools whilst

still desquamating freely. The parents were asked to appear before and give to the Committee their explanations, which although not satisfactory, were accepted.

In respect of age Scarlet Fever showed itself to be mainly a disease of youth.

Ages.				Cases.	Deaths.
Under 1 year	..	...	...	3	
1 to 5 years	...	...	...	56	5
5 to 15 years	...	...	...	114	2
15 to 25 years	...	...	...	13	
25 to 45 years	...	...	...	6	
Total	...	...	...	192	7

The Ward distribution of the cases was as follows, viz.: North Ward 83 cases, East Ward 48 cases, West Ward 61 cases.

Thirty-eight cases, or 19 per cent of the total, were removed to Hyde Borough Infectious Disease Hospital (March quarter 18, June quarter 11, September quarter 4, and December quarter 5).

Home Treatment.

On June 29th last the Health Committee resolved that it be a recommendation that the treatment of cases of Scarlet Fever on the lines advocated some years ago by Dr. Robert Milne, e.g., by inunction of the skin with pure Eucalyptus Oil and by the application of 1-10 Carbolic Oil to the Tonsils, at the same time all reasonable precautions to be taken to isolate the cases as far as possible, and when the patient had recovered, the room in which the patient was isolated, and, where thought necessary, the whole house to be disinfected.

Eucalyptus Oil and Carbolic Oil are supplied free by the Council.

The treatment was applied in the majority of cases occurring during the 2nd half of the year, but in a few cases (9) where a separate room was not available for the patient the case was removed to hospital.

In the half year ending June 30th, 1914, 116 cases were notified, and in the half year ending December 31st, 1914, (when the Eucalyptus treatment was used) 76 cases were notified.

Thirty-eight cases were removed to hospital during the year (5 deaths), a case mortality of 13·0 per cent ; 154 cases were treated at home (2 deaths), a case mortality 1·3 per cent.

No fair inference could be drawn from these figures. The cases removed to hospital may have been of a more severe type than those treated at home, although I have no information that they were so.

The cases were removed principally on account of want of convenience for isolation at home, and for better nursing.

“Return” cases have also been more frequent amongst those treated in hospital than in those treated at home, whereas no “return” cases have been notified during the second half of the year in those treated at home by the Milne method. Several “return” cases were notified in hospital cases during the year.

A family in which four “return” cases occurred is worth recording. On May 7th, 1914, No. 1 child contracted Scarlet Fever and was removed to Hyde Infectious Disease Hospital. (The family at this time were residents of Hyde.) The child was discharged from hospital on June 25th, 1914, and went to reside at a friend’s house in Manchester. Ten days later this friend contracted Scarlet Fever, and was removed to Monsall Hospital. On July 1st, 1914, the child returned home (the family in the meantime having come to reside in Denton). On August, 19th, 1914, two other children

contracted the disease, and on August 31st, 1914, a fourth child. All these were removed to hospital on September 1st, 1914. On September 29th and October 6th two of these cases were discharged, and on October 15th case No. 5 contracted the disease, which case was also removed to hospital. On each occasion the whole house was thoroughly disinfected (as far as we have at our means) by thoroughly spraying the walls, floors, furniture, and clothing with a solution of Formalin, and afterwards submitting them to Formaldehyde Vapour.

I do not believe that thorough disinfection of bedding and clothes can be carried out in this way. A Steam Disinfector is necessary. I have for years urged the Council of the importance of providing one.

The conclusions which I have come to in the six months trial of the Milne method in the treatment of Scarlet Fever justify me in recommending to my Council a further trial of the treatment.

Diphtheria and Membranous Croup.

The following figures show the number of cases notified in 1914 and in the ten previous years :

1904	1905	1906	1907	1908	1909	1910	1911	1912	1913	1914
5	1	5	14	11	7	6	8	17	26	19

The number is 7 less than for that in 1913, and is 9 more than the average for the preceding 10 years.

The cases were spread over the whole year, viz.: January 6, February 3, March 2, April 1, June 1, August 2, October 1, November 1, December 2.

With regard to age, 10 cases, or 52 per cent, were between the ages 5 to 15 years ; 5 cases, or 25 per cent, between ages 1 to 5 years ; 3 cases, or 15 per cent, between ages 25 to 65 years ; and 1 case, or 5 per cent, between 15 to 25 years.

Diphtheria Antitoxin is Supplied Free in All Cases.

The Council provide for free Bacteriological Examination of throat swabs : the work is entrusted to the Public Health Laboratory, Victoria University, Manchester.

Five throat swabs were examined, two positive and three negative.

There was one death registered from Diphtheria, giving a death-rate of 5 per cent of those attacked, compared with a death-rate of 11 per cent in 1913.

The Ward distribution of the cases was as follows : North Ward 8, East Ward 2, West Ward 9.

Enteric Fever.

The following figures show the number of cases notified in 1914 and in the 10 years previous :

1904	1905	1906	1907	1908	1909	1910	1911	1912	1913	1914
17	9	11	4	11	17	6	8	5	6	1

Only one case was notified during the year.

The case was notified on August 6th. The onset of illness dated from July 27th, 1914, after eating tinned salmon at Blackpool. Patient died on August 13th, 1914.

The Council provide for free examination of blood specimens.

Continued Fever.

Two cases were notified. One death.

Erysipelas.

The following figures show the number notified during 1914 and in the 10 previous years :

1904	1905	1906	1907	1908	1909	1910	1911	1912	1913	1914
25	29	19	16	5	12	7	11	7	10	8

With regard to age, three were between ages 15 to 25 years, one between 25 to 45 years, two between 45 to 65 years, and two over 65 years.

The Ward distribution of the cases was as follows: North Ward 4 cases, West Ward 4 cases. There were no deaths.

Measles.

This disease is not notifiable.

With the exception of a few isolated cases, the district was comparatively free from Measles throughout the year.

The following figures show the number of deaths during the years :

1908	1909	1910	1911	1912	1913	1914
0	15	0	5	5	4	2

Diarrhœa and Enteritis.

There were eight deaths from Diarrhœa and Enteritis, all under one year of age, which corresponds to a death-rate of 21·8 per 1·000 births. In 1913 there were six deaths, a death-rate of 16·7 per 1,000 births.

Diarrhœa is an infectious disease, most liable to occur in hot summer months when flies are numerous. (Flies act as carriers of disease.) The prevention of Diarrhœa is, to a great measure, concerned with the improvement of sanitary environment, within and around the house, and in part with the cleanliness of food, in respect of its storage, preparation, and suitability for the infant.

All refuse which would afford a breeding ground for flies should be systematically removed at least once a week. In particular I might mention horse manure and the contents of dry ashpits.

Whooping Cough.

There were three deaths from Whooping Cough during the year. All were children under one year old. The death-rate was 0·17 per 1,000 of the estimated population.

Teachers are advised to exclude from school all sufferers. Also those coming from infected houses.

Chicken Pox.

A few isolated cases occurred during the year.

Puerperal Fever.

There has been no case notified in the district for two years. The combined births for 1913 and 1914 amounted to 725. This speaks favourably for the midwives of the district, who begin to realize the value of scrupulous cleanliness and antiseptics in dealing with maternity cases. There are in the district seven midwives on the County Register, also others who practice in the district but reside in other districts.

Cerebro-Spinal Fever and Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis.

None of the former, but two cases of the latter, were reported during the year. Case 1: A boy, aged one year, notified by Dr. Hugh T. Ashby, Manchester Children's Hospital; onset January 10th, 1914, temperature ranged between 101 deg. and 102 deg. for two or three days, then normal. Nasal discharge, also swelling of the cervical glands. Diarrhœa and profuse perspiration. Paralysis of left arm and left leg. No connection with any other case was discovered. The patient was admitted into the Children's Hospital, Pendlebury. Present condition: Case improving, still some paralysis in muscles of left arm and left leg.

Case No. 2. A boy aged 17 months. Notified on the 2nd May, 1914. Onset not known, constipation, irritability of temper well marked, glands in groin swollen, twitching,

muscular atrophy of left thigh and paralysis of left leg. The case is now doing well.

The two cases were widely separated one from each other, and no connection between them was discovered.

Tuberculosis.

By order of the Local Government Board, 1909, notification of Tuberculosis of the Lungs was made obligatory on the Medical Officers of Poor-Law Service; in 1911 a second order extending the obligation to other institutions; in 1912 a third order required private practitioners to notify, and finally, in 1913, the obligation was extended to all forms of Tuberculosis capable of being diagnosed clinically.

During the year 21 notifications were received in respect of Pulmonary Tuberculosis; a decrease of 17 on the previous year.

The following table shows the incidence of the disease in respect of age :—

	Under 1 year	1 and under 2 years	2 and under 5 years	5 and under 15 years	15 and under 25 years	25 and under 45 years	45 and under 65 years	65 and upwards	Total cases Notified
Males	2	4	3	2	...	11
Females	1	7	2	...	10
Total	2	5	10	4	...	21

The distribution of the cases was as follows, viz.: North Ward 2, East Ward 12, West Ward 7.

There were 17 deaths. Three between the ages 15 to 25, twelve between 25 to 45, one between 45 to 65, and one over 65.

Eleven notifications were received in respect of Tuberculosis other than the lungs.

The following table shows the incidence of the disease in respect of age :

	Under 1 year.	1 and under 2 years.	2 and under 5 years.	5 and under 15 years.	15 and under 25 years.	25 and under 45 years.	45 and under 65 years.	65 and upwards.	Total cases notified.
Males.....	...	1	...	2	3	...	...	...	6
Females.....	1	...	1	1	1	1	...	...	5
Total.....	1	1	1	3	4	1	...	...	11

Location of Disease : Glands of abdomen 3, glands of neck 6, Tubercular Meningitis 1, rib 1.

The distribution of the cases was as follows : North Ward 1, East Ward 6, West Ward 4.

There were five deaths from Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis ; two between the age one to two, two between 5 to 15, one between 45 to 65.

All cases are visited on receipt of notification, and afterwards kept under observation. A record of each case is kept, and where insanitary conditions were found notices were served on the owners for their abatement.

The Council provides for free examination of sputum in all cases.

Twenty-six specimens were submitted to Prof. Delèpine for examination : seven positive and nineteen negative.

Rooms are disinfected when thought necessary, and in every case on the death or removal of a patient. The house is thoroughly disinfected before a fresh tenant is allowed to occupy it.

Disinfectants and Izal handkerchiefs are supplied free.

Printed instructions to persons suffering from Consumption are left with each patient, and handbills dealing with the danger of infection have been distributed throughout the district.

Admonitory cards in reference to spitting are suspended in factories and workshops.

National Insurance Act (Sanatoria Benefits).

A "Tuberculosis" Medical Officer and "Tuberculosis" Nurse have now been appointed for the area of which Denton is a part.

All cases notified are visited by the Tuberculosis Medical Officer and Sanatoria treatment given in desirable cases; in cases where considered necessary special nourishments are allowed.

During the year ten cases had Sanatoria treatment.

Recently a Dispensary has been opened in Warrington Street, Ashton-under-Lyne, where the Tuberculosis Medical Officer attends on two days a week (Tuesday and Friday) where the following work is carried on :—

- (a) Examination of persons applying for Sanatoria Benefit under the Insurance Act.
- (b) Examination of cases of suspected Phthisis sent by medical practitioners.
- (c) Examination of contacts.
- (d) Treatment of cases of insured persons.
- (e) Administration of "Tuberculin" where considered desirable.

The Council have made no arrangement for the treatment of non-insured cases. Some cases have taken advantage of the benefits of the Manchester Consumption Hospital. Three cases had treatment at Bowdon Sanatorium, Cheshire.

Anthrax.

On February 5th, 1914, Sammel Bromley Grundy, Crown Point, Denton (butcher on his own account), notified to the Inspector of Nuisances that he had slaughtered and dressed a cow which had strangled itself in a shippin belonging to a farmer named Richard Street, Henfold Farm, Town Lane, Denton. On enquiry it was found out that a veterinary surgeon had seen the cow a few hours before it was slaughtered, but that he did not diagnose Anthrax. The Sanitary Inspector, on examination of the carcase, suspected that the cow had died from Anthrax, and notified the case to the police, who had the carcase examined by the County Veterinary Surgeon; he at once pronounced it to be one of true Anthrax.

At the time of dressing the beast the butcher had several superficial scratches on his hands and arms. On Tuesday, the 10th February, two or three distinct pustules developed on the arm, and on Wednesday, the 11th, he was removed to the Royal Infirmary, Manchester, and I am obliged to Dr. Hughes, the resident surgical officer, for the following report :

“On admission Grundy had several pustules on both forearms, which were suspiciously like Anthrax. We obtained some serum from one of the pustules and found it to be teeming with Anthrax Bacilli. He was, of course, isolated from the first and given Selazo's Serum. To-day (February 13th), however, as no improvement had taken place, and as one of the pustules was obviously increasing in size, I excised the lot, seven in all. He has no constitutional symptoms, so there is no evidence of Anthracemia. The case made a good recovery.”

Administrative Measures to Check the Spread of Disease.

The carcase was destroyed by fire, and animals that had been in contact with the diseased cow were isolated and kept under observation for a period of eight days.

The milk from all cows that had been in contact with the diseased animal was boiled and then buried during the isolation period.

The shippon was thoroughly disinfected and lime-washed.

No other case occurred.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

Six cases were notified during the year (occurring in newly-born children). Three were notified by the medical attendant at the Royal Eye Hospital, Manchester, two by private medical attendants, and one by a midwife.

APPENDIX.

VITAL STATISTICS.

TABLES I; II; III; & IV.

TABLE I.

Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1914 and previous years.

Yr.	Population estimated to middle of each year	BIRTHS.			Total Deaths Registered in the district		Transferable Deaths		Nett Deaths belonging to the district.			
		Uncorrected Number.	Nett.						Under 1 year of age.		At all ages.	
			Number.	Rate.	Number.	Rate.	of non-residents registered in the district.	of Residents not registered in the district.	Number.	Rate per 1000 Nett Births	Number.	Rate.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1909	16122	391	391	24.2	235	14.5		9	51	130	244	15.1
1910	16319	439	439	26.9	186	11.3		9	43	97	195	11.9
1911	16931	383	385	22.7	232	13.7	3	27	57	148	256	15.1
1912	17049	363	364	21.3	226	13.2	3	25	54	148	248	14.5
1913	17189	358	359	20.8	213	12.3	5	44	52	144	252	14.6
1914	17344	365	366	21.1	191	11.0	2	36	44	120	225	12.9

Area of District in acres (land and inland water)... 2593

Total population at all ages ... 16880 } At Census

Number of inhabited houses ... 3981 } 1911.

TABLE II. Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the Year 1914.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	Number of Cases Notified.								Total Cases Notified in Each Locality (e.g. Parish or Ward) of the District.			Total cases removed to Hospital	
	At all ages.	Under 1	1 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25		25 to 45	45 to 65	65 and upwards	North Ward	East Ward		West Ward
Small-pox ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cholera ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria (including Membranous Group) ...	19	...	5	10	1	3	...	2	...	8	2	9	1
Erysipelas	8	...	...	...	3	1	...	...	...	4	...	4	...
Scarlet Fever	192	3	56	114	13	6	...	...	2	83	48	61	38
Typhus Fever ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Enteric Fever	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Relapsing Fever ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2(c)	...	...	...
Continued Fever	2(c)	...	...	2(c)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal Fever ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Poliomyelitis... ..	2	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	6	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	..	5	...
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ...	21	...	...	2	5	10	4	...	...	2	12	7	San'toria 12
Other forms of Tuberculosis...	11	1	2	3	4	1	...	...	...	1	6	4	Hos. Trt. 1
Totals	262	10	65	131	26	22	6	2	102	69	91	52	

Isolation Hospital—Hyde Borough Infectious Disease Hospital.
Sanatoria Provided under the National Insurance Act.

TABLE IV. INFANT MORTALITY.

1914. Nett Deaths from stated causes at various Ages under 1 Year of Age.

CAUSE OF DEATH.		Under 1 Week.	1-2 Weeks.	2-3 Weeks.	3-4 Weeks.	Total under 4 Weeks.	4 Weeks and under 3 Months.	3 Months and under 6 Months.	6 Months and under 9 Months.	9 Months and under 12 Mth.	Total Deaths under One Year.
1		2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
All causes	Certified	6	4	1	3	14	12	5	7	6	44
	Uncertified	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
{	Small-pox	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
{	Chicken-pox	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
{	Measles	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
{	Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
{	Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	1	3
{	Diphtheria and Croup	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
{	Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
{	Tuberculous Meningitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
{	Abdominal Tuberculosis (<i>b</i>)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
{	Other Tuberculous Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
{	Meningitis (<i>not Tuberculous</i>)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
{	Convulsions	...	1	2	...	3	...	...	1	...	4
{	Laryngitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
{	Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1
{	Pneumonia (all forms)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	2	5
{	Diarrhœa	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1
{	Enteritis	...	...	...	1	1	2	1	1	2	7
{	Gastritis	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	...	1	4
{	Syphilis	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1
{	Rickets	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
{	Suffocation, overlying	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	2
{	Injury at Birth	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
{	Atelectasis	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1
{	Congenital Malformations <i>c</i>	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1
{	Premature Birth	...	2	2	...	5	1	...	...	...	6
{	Atrophy, Debility, and Marasmus	...	...	1	1	2	1	2	1	...	6
{	Other causes	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1
Total		6	4	1	3	14	12	5	7	6	44

Nett Births in the year { legitimate, 353.
 { illegitimate, 13.

Nett Deaths in the year of { legitimate infants, 40.
 { illegitimate infants, 4.

